

SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

GENESIS 2-3



KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 104:24

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Who is God? God is our Creator and the King of everything.

CHRIST CONNECTION: Adam and Eve sinned when they rejected God's good plan and disobeyed His command. Sin separates people from God, but God didn't leave them without hope. God sent His Son, Jesus, to live as Adam didn't—perfectly sinless. God the Son came to earth as a man to rescue people from sin.

STORY POINT: Sin is disobeying God and His commands.



PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

LEADER Bible Study

Genesis 2–3 recounts sin’s entrance into the world through Adam and Eve’s disobedience. From the earliest pages of the Old Testament, we are introduced to the gravity of sin and mankind’s need for redemption—a redemption promised by God through an offspring of Eve. A Rescuer would come to undo the curse of sin and crush the serpent.

How has God provided for His people since the beginning of time, from before the fall of man until this very moment? What evidence do we see of His kindness and care—especially in light of Christ?

God revealed His glory through Eden, a thriving garden where His people’s needs were lovingly met. His beautiful creation was all theirs for the taking with only one exception: “... you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die” (Genesis 2:17). God’s command was not a means to withhold good. Rather, His command was for their good. That is, by obeying Him, they would actually find life.

When faced with the serpent’s lies, Adam and Eve failed to believe God’s words. They were enticed by the fruit’s appearance, the idea that she could be like God, and the allurements of obtaining wisdom. Their eyes had indeed been opened to the knowledge of good and evil; however, because they disobeyed God’s command, they would now experience sin’s consequences and the reality of death.

Despite His people’s disobedience, God sought them in their sin. He provided them with clothing from animal skins to cover their nakedness and shame. However, the sacrifice of this animal was not a once-and-for-all event, but the foreshadowing of a greater death to repair this severed relationship between God and man—Christ’s sacrifice on the cross. God’s merciful promise in Genesis 3:15 provides all people with the opportunity to be freed from the curse of sin and find life in Christ. As Romans 5:19 reminds us, “For just as through one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so also through the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.”

While you ponder today’s truths, take time to meditate on God’s care for His people—from the beauty of creation to the mercy revealed in Jesus’ sacrifice. Consider God’s provision in redeeming His people and drawing close despite their sin. May you teach His truths clearly, your own faith made evident to the boys and girls learning from you today.



PREPARE

THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach; plan the session



WELCOME

10-15 MINUTES

Greet kids and open the session



LEARN

25-30 MINUTES

Teach kids the story of the gospel



LOVE

15-20 MINUTES

Lead kids to love the God of the gospel



LIVE

15-20 MINUTES

Lead kids to live out the mission of the gospel



PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

GATHER Supplies

Keep a regular supply of the following items available at all times: Bibles, pens or pencils, markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape, paper.



WELCOME

Activity Page

- ☐ "What's Hidden?" activity page

Session Starter (Option 2)

- ☐ small mirrors, 1 per group
- ☐ plastic cling wrap



LOVE

Review & Bible Skills

- ☐ Small Group Timeline and Map Set
- ☐ world map



LIVE

Activity Choice (Option 1)

- ☐ dry erase board and marker

Activity Choice (Option 2)

- ☐ dry erase board and marker

Reflection and Prayer

- ☐ Journal Page
- ☐ "What Did God Say?" activity page



LEARN

Introduce the Session

- ☐ countdown video
- ☐ Story Point Poster

Big Picture Question

- ☐ Big Picture Question Poster

Review the Timeline

- ☐ Giant Timeline

Tell the Bible Story

- ☐ "Sin Entered the World" video
- ☐ Bible Story Picture Poster
- ☐ leaves, 1 per kid (optional)
- ☐ pieces of cloth, 1 per kid (optional)

Questions from Kids

- ☐ "Unit 1, Session 2" Questions from Kids video

Missions Moment

- ☐ "Reese Family Photo" printable
- ☐ globe or world map
- ☐ soccer balls
- ☐ cone

Key Passage Activity

- ☐ Key Passage Poster
- ☐ "Countless (Psalm 104:24)" song
- ☐ worship song of your choice (optional)
- ☐ index cards, 1 per kid



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY “What are some choices you make every day or throughout the week? Do you get to choose what you wear or eat? How do you decide what to choose?”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “What’s Hidden?” activity page.

SAY “Today, we will learn about a choice Adam and Eve made and how that choice led them to hide from God.”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: WHAT DID I SAY?



Form kids into pairs and direct them to listen closely as you call out a list of statements. Say aloud the following statements one after the other:

- I like the color blue.
- The flowers in my garden are roses.
- Broccoli is the worst vegetable.
- Panda bears only eat bamboo.

Invite pairs to repeat the statements to each other as best as they can recall. Provide each pair with a piece of paper and a pencil. Call out the statements again, but this time change a word or two. For example, “The flowers in my garden are daisies.” Lead kids to write down any words that may be different from the original statement. Review the answers to see which pairs could identify the changes.

SAY “This activity reminds me of how a lying serpent twisted God’s words. Today, we’ll learn how sin entered the world because Eve chose to reject God’s good command and believe the lies of the serpent. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.**”

☐ OPTION 2: DISTORTED IMAGE

Form kids into groups of three or four. Provide each group with a small mirror. Invite kids to take turns looking at their reflections, noticing specific details such as their eye color, nose shape, and if they have freckles. Encourage kids to share the different details they notice.

Then provide groups with a piece of plastic cling wrap. Direct groups to wrap their mirrors with the cling wrap so that the mirror is covered in four to five layers of the wrap. Invite kids to look at their reflections again. Lead kids to share what has changed now that the mirror has wrap over it.

SAY “When God made Adam and Eve, they were able to fully reflect their Creator. Today, we will learn how the sinful choice Adam and Eve made not only damaged their reflection of God, but also separated them from Him. Yet, God gave them hope: one day the perfect image of God would come into the world and save people from sin.”





LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

INTRODUCE the Bible Story

1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

SAY “ Welcome, kids! My name is [your name], and I am excited to share a true story from God’s Word with you. The Bible, or God’s Word, is a book about God. As we learn more about who God is, we also learn more about who we are. We come to understand that God is perfect and holy, and we are not. If you have your Bible, please hold it up. **[Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.]**

Today, we will be reading from the book of Genesis. As we read our story, we will learn how sin entered the world. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.** **[Display the Story Point Poster.]** Even though sin entering the world is terrible news, our story also has good news. We’ll learn how God made a special promise to Adam and Eve about a Rescuer who would come to save us from sin. Let’s pray for God’s Word to transform our hearts. **[Invite kids to pray with you.]** ”

2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

SAY “ Last week, we learned our big picture question: **Who is God?** Does anyone remember the answer? **[Allow responses.]** **God is our Creator and the King of everything.** Let’s repeat the answer together: **God is our Creator and the King of everything.**

Since God is Creator and the King of everything, He gets to decide what is good, bad, and how the world should work. Last week, we learned that everything God made was good. He creates good creations because He is a good God. Even His commands are good. In our Bible story today, we will learn how God gave a good command to Adam and Eve. His Word is true and is to be obeyed because it leads us to life. ”

3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the giant timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

SAY “ Let’s take a moment to review what we learned last week. We started at the beginning of the Bible and learned how God created the whole world. God spoke and everything was made. God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh day. Do you remember who God made that was His special creation? **[Allow responses.]** Yes, God made people—Adam and Eve. People are made in the image of God. We are made to reflect what God is like. We reflect God when we show others what He is like. Obeying His commands helps us live in a way that reflects Him. Today, we will learn how Adam and Eve chose to disobey God and reject His good command. ”



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Genesis 2:8-17; 3:1-24. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “Sin Entered the World.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

“After God made Adam, He placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it. God commanded him, **“You can eat from any tree of the garden, but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die.”**

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals God had made. One day, he asked Adam’s wife, Eve, **“Did God really say, ‘You can’t eat from any tree in the garden?’”**

Eve said, **“We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. But God said we must not eat the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden. He said, ‘You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.’”**

“No! You will certainly not die,” the serpent said. **“In fact, God knows that when you eat it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”**

Eve saw that the fruit looked good and she wanted to be wise like God, so she took some of the fruit and ate it. She gave some to Adam, who was with her, and he ate it too. As soon as they ate the fruit, **their eyes were opened and they knew they were naked.** They made clothes for themselves by sewing together fig leaves.

In the evening, Adam and Eve heard God walking in the garden, so they hid. **God called out to Adam, “Where are you?”** Adam replied, **“I heard You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.”** **God asked Adam, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”** Adam immediately blamed Eve and said, **“She gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”**

Eve blamed the serpent and said, **“He deceived me, and I ate.”** **God cursed the serpent by making him crawl on his belly.** Adam and Eve also had consequences for their disobedience. Life would be hard and painful, all because of sin. **The ultimate consequence for humanity’s disobedience to God is death. But God promised that one of the woman’s descendants would destroy the serpent.**

God was merciful to Adam and Eve. He **made clothes for them out of animal skins before He sent them out of the garden.** God put angels and a sword of fire at the entrance of the garden to guard the way to the tree of life.

Christ Connection: Adam and Eve sinned when they rejected God’s good plan and

STORYTELLING TIPS

Provide coverings:

Distribute a leaf and a piece of cloth to each kid. Lead kids to hold up the leaf when you talk about Adam and Eve sewing fig leaves. Then direct kids to hold up the piece of cloth when you talk about God making clothes for them. Remind kids that Jesus gave Himself as a sacrifice so we could be covered in His goodness.

Point your finger:

Invite kids to point their finger at you when you teach how Eve blamed the serpent and Adam blamed Eve. Emphasize how sin causes brokenness in relationships.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

disobeyed His command. Sin separates people from God, but God didn't leave them without hope. God sent His Son, Jesus, to live as Adam didn't—perfectly sinless. God the Son came to earth as a man to rescue people from sin. ”

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “ God is good, holy, and true. Everything He says or does can be trusted, including His commands. What was the command God gave Adam and Eve? **[Allow responses.]** God told them that they must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God told them the consequence for disobeying His command would be death.

Yet, Adam and Eve were led to believe lies over the truth of God's Word. Who tempted and deceived Eve by twisting God's words? **[Allow responses.]** The serpent lied to Eve and told her she would not die. The serpent is the father of lies and does not want people to love God like they are created to do. He deceives people by tempting them to doubt God's true words.

When Adam and Eve ate the fruit, they sinned against God. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.** God gave consequences to Adam and Eve because of their sin. They would face death because of sin. But God also gave a wonderful promise. What was the promise? **[Allow responses.]** Genesis 3:15 tells us that God promised a Rescuer would come to defeat sin. The Bible tells us that this Rescuer would be the perfect image of God. He wouldn't be sinful and have a broken image. Jesus is the Rescuer God promised. He shows us exactly what God is like because He is holy.

Adam and Eve rejected God's good plan when they sinned by disobeying His command. Sin separates people from God, but God didn't leave them without hope. God sent His Son, Jesus, to live as Adam didn't—perfectly sinless. God the Son came to earth as a man to rescue people from sin. ”

3 GOSPEL DISCUSSION

SAY “ Because Adam and Eve sinned, all people now sin. Sin is disobeying God and His commands. We all have hearts that want to choose our own way instead of God's way. But God sent His Son, Jesus, to defeat sin and death so we can have new hearts that want to love and follow Him. Have you trusted in Jesus to save you from sin? **[Seek the Holy Spirit's leading as you share the good news of the gospel.]** ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 1, Session 2” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. Why did God make Adam and Eve? Why did He make a tree they could not eat from?
2. How did God show Adam and Eve mercy? How does He show us mercy?



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

Display a globe or world map. Invite kids to find where they live. Then challenge them to locate the country of Brazil (in South America). Display the “Reese Family Photo” printable.

SAY “Eric and Ramona Reese are missionaries in Brazil. Brazil is the largest country in South America. I’m going to say some statements about Brazil. If you think the statement is true, stand up. If you think it is false, sit down.”

Read the following statements, pausing after each for kids to respond before revealing the answer. End the missions moment in prayer for the people of Brazil.

- Brazil is the fifth largest nation in the world. (true)
- The official language of Brazil is Spanish. (false, Portuguese)
- More than 208 million people live in Brazil. (true)
- Brazil borders the Pacific Ocean. (false, Atlantic Ocean)
- Eric and Ramona Reese have served in Brazil more than 20 years. (true)

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Psalm 104:24 together.

SAY “Our key passage reminds us that God created the world by His wisdom. God knows exactly how everything He created should work. He knows how trees can grow from a seed, and He knows that people are most happy when we worship Him. God is a good God who created us to know and love Him.”

Form kids into pairs and provide them with an index card. Lead kids to write down the key passage on one side. Then on the other side invite kids to write down a note of encouragement for their partner. For example, kids may write *God made you to know and love Him* or *God created you because He loves you*. Direct kids to give the index card to their partner, and challenge kids to use it to memorize the key passage.

Lead kids to sing “Countless (Psalm 104:24).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

SAY “Dear Father in heaven, we praise You for being a good Creator who gives good commands. Help us trust You and obey Your word. Forgive us of our sin through faith in Jesus. Amen.”





LOVE

THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God by Applying the Story

1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles and display the Old Testament Israel Map. Guide kids to open their Bibles to Genesis 3. Explain that the Bible is one big story about God and how He made a way to save people from sin. Review the big story lines of the Bible: Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration. Tell kids that Genesis helps us understand how we were made to worship God, how sin has ruined our relationship with God, and how God promised to send a Savior to defeat sin and death. (Gen. 3:15)

Consider comparing the Old Testament Israel Map to a modern-day map to help kids understand where this story took place. (Tip: Locate the areas in and around modern-day Euphrates River.) Choose a volunteer to read aloud Genesis 3:15,21 or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verses aloud.

SAY “ **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.** Adam and Eve’s sin brought terrible consequences. But God made a promise to send a Rescuer to save people from their sin. One of Eve’s descendants would come at just the right time to give Himself as a sacrifice for our sin. Just like God shed an animal’s blood to make clothes for Adam and Eve, Jesus would come to shed His blood so that all who trust in Him would have their sin washed away and would be covered in His righteousness. Faith in Jesus makes us right with God so we are no longer separated from Him. ”

2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

SAY “ What does sin do to our relationships with people and with God? ”

Remind kids that Adam and Eve responded to being caught in sin by blaming each other. Point out that they also tried to hide from God. Discuss how sin creates brokenness in relationships. Explain that sin separates us from God and leads to death. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Rom. 3:23.)

SAY “ What is the ultimate consequence of sin? ”

Discuss how God said that disobeying His command would lead to death. Explain that sin leads to a physical and spiritual death because sin separates us from God. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Rom. 5:12.)

SAY “ Why is God’s promise to send a descendant from Eve to destroy the snake good news? ”

Point out that this promise points to God’s Son, Jesus, who would enter the world and live a perfect life. Tell kids that Jesus gave Himself as a sacrifice on the cross for our sins and defeated death. Explain that faith in Jesus gives us forgiveness of sins and eternal life. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Rom. 6:23.)

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





LIVE

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE the Mission

1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: GOD SAID ...



Before the session, write on a dry erase board 8–10 of the commands of God from Scripture such as don't lie, love one another, don't steal, honor your mother and father, care for the widows, don't worship any other gods, etc. Then lead kids to line up at one end of the room. Call out different statements that obey the commands written and some that disobey the commands written. For example, you may say, "A kid said he brushed his teeth, but he really didn't." Tell kids that if the statement obeys God's commands, they should take one step forward. If it does not obey His commands, they should stay in place. Kids who take a step when the statement disobeys God's command are out. Play as time allows.

SAY “ When Adam and Eve disobeyed God’s good command, sin and death came into the world. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.** Jesus came to earth and perfectly obeyed God’s commands for us. Anyone who trusts in Jesus is forgiven of sin. ”

☐ OPTION 2: PERFECT IMAGE

On a dry erase board, write the words Image of the Invisible God and Colossians 1:15-17,19-20. Provide kids with a Bible and lead them to turn in their Bibles to Colossians 1:15-17,19-20. Assist kids who may need help finding Colossians. Direct kids to read the verses. Then explain how these verses are about Jesus, God’s Son, who came to earth to rescue us from sin. Invite kids to choose two or three words about Jesus that stand out to them. Allow kids to write these words on the dry erase board. Provide extra dry erase markers so multiple kids can write at once.

SAY “ These words in Colossians teach us that Jesus is the image of the invisible God. This means He is God who became a human. Since Jesus is God, He never sinned. He always obeyed God’s command. Unlike Adam, Jesus perfectly showed us what God is like. He obeyed God to the point of death on the cross to save us from our sin. ”

2 JOURNAL AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

Distribute journal pages and pencils. Guide kids to think about and answer the questions listed on the page. As kids journal, invite them to share their ideas.

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God’s glory and my good?
- Are there promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

Review the gospel and encourage kids to speak with you or another teacher if they have questions. Then pray, praising God for His greatness and goodness, knowing He is Creator and King. As time allows, lead kids to complete “What Did God Say?” on the activity page.